

NSC BRIEFING

5 January 1955

FRENCH COUNCIL OF THE REPUBLIC

A. Members:

1. Limited by constitution to 320 senators.
2. Elected 3 at a time for six years.
3. Elected indirectly through local government units.
4. Minimum age 35.
5. Have same immunity and salary as deputies.
6. May not belong to any other assembly.

B. Powers strictly limited:

- 1  Advisory capacity only
  - a. Can delay legislation, but Assembly has final say.
  - b. If fails to act within 45 days, Pres can do it.

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2. Joins with Assembly to elect  
president of Republic.

C. Dominated by professional classes:

1. Lawyers almost equal to combined  
total of agricultural, industrial,  
and commercial interests.

**BACKGROUND - "5 PRINCIPLES"**

**I. AGREED UPON LAST SUMMER BY NEHRU  
AND CHOU AS BASIS OF SINO-INDIAN  
RELATIONS, SUBSEQUENTLY ACCEPTED  
BY NU AS BASIS FOR SINO-BURMESE  
RELATIONS:**

- A. MUTUAL RESPECT FOR EACH  
OTHERS TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY  
AND SOVEREIGNTY**
- B. NONAGGRESSION**
- C. NON-INTERFERENCE IN EACH OTHER'S  
INTERNAL AFFAIRS**
- D. EQUALITY AND MUTUAL BENEFIT**
- E. PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE**